

home bombed because of his outspoken views and his fight for racial equality.

In 1953, he became the presiding pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL. He continued his call to preach in Cincinnati, OH, from 1961–1966 where he pastored the Revelation Baptist Church. Reverend Shuttlesworth remained in Cincinnati during his latter years and returned to Birmingham after his retirement in 2007. During that time, he continued his fight for racial equality and became a strong advocate for the homeless.

Although Reverend Shuttlesworth is no longer with us, his contributions to our Nation will not be forgotten.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING SALOMON E. RAMIREZ

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, Salomon E. Ramirez, New Mexico State executive director of USDA's Farm Service Agency, died October 22 at his family's ranch in Rociada, NM. He was 56 years old. Salomon came from a ranching family in San Miguel County and devoted his life to serving agriculture in New Mexico and the Nation.

He was born in Las Vegas, NM, attended Robertson High School, and graduated with a degree in agriculture from New Mexico State University. His passion for agriculture and a desire to help farmers and ranchers in New Mexico led him to a career at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, including positions at both the Farm Service Agency and the U.S. Forest Service. Because of his knowledge and experience, he spent time at USDA's headquarters in Washington helping to write a new farm bill and implement national farm policy.

Salomon Ramirez was a model public servant. He worked at USDA for over 30 years and was a tireless advocate for my State's farmers and ranchers. No one knew more about farm programs or understood how they could best be implemented to support the producers in my State. My staff and I frequently sought his counsel and valued his always astute advice. I was honored to recommend him to be the State executive director of the New Mexico Farm Service Agency and was pleased when President Obama appointed him to the position in 2009.

No State had a more capable or caring manager for its farm programs than New Mexico. He was a true friend of agriculture and everyone who depends on agriculture from producers to consumers—in fact, all of us. He will be greatly missed.●

##### ZERO LANDFILL WASTE CELEBRATION

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, it is with the greatest pleasure that today I recognize the achievements of the McKee

Foods Corporation plant in Gentry, AR. This plant reached the milestone of having zero landfill waste, a first for a McKee Foods production facility.

In 1934, under the shadow of the Great Depression, the late O.D. and Ruth McKee converted a cookie shop into a 5-cent bakery in Chattanooga, TN. With O.D.'s aptitude for sales and Ruth's management abilities, the duo took their small mom-and-pop bakery and expanded into what is now known as McKee Foods Corporation. The expansion into Gentry came in 1982 when the company needed a larger facility to serve the western United States and Mexico. Among other things, the Gentry plant produces a variety of "Little Debbie" snack cakes, a favorite treat among my family and staff.

It was 2 years ago that the Gentry plant management team challenged themselves and the more than 1,500 Gentry employees to reach a goal of zero landfill waste. Although seen as challenging, the entire plant knew this was achievable. Many recycling efforts were already under way, and the plant partnered with several local recycling companies to put processes in place to bring their landfill waste down to zero. For the Gentry plant, there will be no going back to the landfill.

With responsibility as a guiding value, McKee Foods has been and will continue to be a strong advocate for environmentally conscious business practices. On average, McKee Foods recycles 3,750 tons of cardboard, 10,000 gallons of used petroleum oil, over 100,000 wooden pallets, and 200 tons of scrap steel and other metals. While the Gentry plant is setting the bar high for other McKee facilities, the entire McKee Foods Corporation is to be commended for its environmental stewardship.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating the McKee Foods Corporation's Gentry plant on attaining zero landfill waste. As the company motto adopted by O.D. McKee makes clear, McKee Foods is committed to "finding a better way" of doing business, and the Gentry plant is leading the way. I am proud of all they have accomplished and look forward to their future successes.●

##### TRIBUTE TO NEIL BOWES

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Neil Bowes for 50 outstanding years at WNAX Radio. When Mr. Bowes first arrived at WNAX Radio, he was a new graduate of the University of South Dakota. He began his career on the business side of WNAX operations in 1961 and remained there for seven years before he decided to venture into sales in 1968. Ever since this transition, businesses that advertise on WNAX have had the privilege of dealing with Neil. For many of those clients, besides being a trusted businessman, he is also a friend.

Neil's duties have allowed him to broadcast live from numerous State

fairs, Dakota Fests, parades, grand openings, and other events over the years. Through his work, he has been able to see many parts of our great State in an effort to, as he puts it, "give businesses the opportunity to share their good news with listeners of WNAX." Neil also enjoys exploring the never-ending, "out-of-the-way spots" in South Dakota when he takes the long way home.

Mr. Bowes lives with his wife Mary Ellen near the Missouri River just west of Yankton. They have raised four kids who have in turn blessed them with seven grandchildren. His family, at home and at WNAX, is grateful for his long commitment to radio and dedication to his work.●

##### TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES YRIARTE

• Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, on November 4, one of the Oregon National Guard's most remarkable military leaders will retire: BG Charles Yriarte.

General Yriarte has served the citizens of Oregon, and the United States, in the Oregon National Guard for over 40 years. He joined as a private and has held numerous positions, including troop commander, battalion commander, brigade commander, and is ending his service as an assistant adjutant general.

Oregonians hold the men and women of our National Guard in high regard, and General Yriarte is one example of why. While serving as a model citizen soldier, he has raised his children, maintained a civilian career as a U.S. Forest Service civil servant and also assisted his family with their cattle ranch in Burns, OR. His dedication to his family runs deep. When General Yriarte was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General, the ceremony was held at St. Charles Hospital in Bend, Oregon, so his father, who was undergoing treatment, could be present. But, when duty has called, General Yriarte has always answered, many times at great sacrifice to himself. Joining the Forest Service in 1974 was his dream job, but after the attacks of September 11, 2001, he took on a number of critical full-time assignments in the Oregon National Guard.

General Yriarte deployed to Iraq shortly after the war commenced and was placed in charge of Joint Base Ballad, in an extremely hazardous environment, with the duty of making the base functional for U.S. and allied soldiers. General Yriarte worked to improve relations with local leaders to lessen the daily mortar attacks and reduce the threat to his soldiers and the base in the early stages of the war. This outreach was a tremendous success and led to a strong relationship and enduring friendship with many of the local community leaders. His tireless effort to secure the base ensured the safety of several thousand servicemembers on base and reduced the attacks and violence outside the perimeter. General Yriarte accomplished this